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September 3, 2015

Saxon v. United States, Nos. 13-Civ-4966, 14-Civ-733

Dear Judge Ramos:

I have been appointed by the Court pursuant to the Criminal Justice Act to represent Mr. Saxon in the above-captioned cases. I write to provide an update to the Court concerning the status of Mr. Saxon's direct appeal of his conviction and sentence, and to provide a courtesy copy to the Court of a supplemental brief and supporting declaration that I am filing today in support of Mr. Saxon's § 2255 motions.

With respect to Mr. Saxon's direct appeal, his appellate counsel has filed a brief pursuant to *Anders v. California*, 386 U.S. 738 (1967), and an accompanying motion to be relieved as counsel. The appellate brief does not address the ineffective assistance of counsel claims that Mr. Saxon has presented for the first time in his § 2255 motions. Accordingly, I respectfully submit that it would be appropriate for the Court to consider Mr. Saxon's § 2255 motions at this time, after the Government has had an opportunity to review the supplemental brief and submit its response.

I am available at the Court's convenience to answer any questions regarding this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

s/Benjamin Gruenstein

Hon. Edgardo Ramos
United States District Judge
Thurgood Marshall United State Courthouse
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Encls.

BY HAND AND VIA ECF

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